

...I cannot rest from travel: I will drink
 Life to the lees: All times I have enjoy'd
 Greatly, have suffer'd greatly, both with those
 That loved me, and alone...
 For always roaming with a hungry heart
 Much have I seen and known;
 ...I am a part of all that I have met;
 Yet all experience is an arch wherethro'
 Gleams that untravell'd world whose margin fades
 For ever and forever when I move.
 ...Life piled on life
 Were all too little,
 ...And this gray spirit yearning in desire
 To follow knowledge like a sinking star,
 Beyond the utmost bound of human thought....

excerpts from Ulysses by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, 19th c.

To be blessed with visions is not enough...we must live them!

J.C. High Eagle, Osage/Cherokee, 21st c.

The moments when we meet and reckon with contradictions are turning points where we either enter or evade the mystery of God.
Parker Palmer, 21st c.

The only real failure is the failure to try, and the measure of success is how we cope with disappointment. We came here and we tried, all of us in our different ways. Can we be blamed for feeling we are too old to change, too scared of disappointment to start it all again? We get up in the morning. We do our best. Nothing else matters.

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, Ol Parker (screenplay) Deborah Moggach (novel), 21st c.

Prayer Candles: Is there a person or relationship that needs a prayer?

Please come forward and light an individual prayer candle before our worship begins.

Greeting One Another in Peace and Friendship

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies* Smith

The Centering Silence

The Introit *God Is Here!* Cyril V. Taylor

* **The Gathering Hymn** *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* (insert)

* The Call to Worship

L: We sing unto God a hymn of glad rejoicing!

P: We lift up our lives of love at the new day's fresh beginning.

L: God made the sky above, the stars, the sun, the oceans;

P: and God saw it was good for those works are filled with beauty.

L: We sing unto God a hymn of adoration

P: which shows our love and faith and the hope of all creation.

L: We praise our Source through all that has been made,

P: and so we sing to God, who bestows every blessing!

The Gathering Prayer (unison)

Everlasting God, our days grow longer as we move into early daylight and late sunsets rejoicing in the gifts of the season. Soon? Soon! We will pick fresh strawberries in the cool of the morning, trees will offer a pool of shade on a hot afternoon, and the glittering light of fireflies will dot the nights. All these gifts will unfold in the next few months. Guide our eyes to holy moments we might otherwise miss. Remind us that your love knows no special season. With the gentle power of an opening blossom unfold our gifts, unfold what each of us brings to this season of transformation. Turn our eyes of hope towards you, our God of All Creation, All Nurturing Love, and All New Life. Through all the seasons of our souls, we join with all nature in manifold witness to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Amen.

The Anthem *Love Is Love Is Love Is Love* Abbie Betinis

Time for the Child in Each of Us

Sing Our Children to Sunday School (seated) *Go Now In Peace* #437(twice)

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you
 everywhere, everywhere you may go.

The Prayer Hymn (seated) *Let There Be Peace on Earth* # 677

The Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

New Zealand Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven.

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe.

May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth.

May your heavenly will be done by all created beings.

May your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope

and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

The Congregational Response *Confitemini Domino* Taize Community

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, allelu-u-u-u-ia!

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, allelu-u-u-u-ia!

The Offering Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Walk among us, God of Peace. Help our church to find the joy that comes through involvement and sharing, so that we participate in the changes taking place in the world and are a part of making all persons free. Amen.

The Offering and The Offertory *This is My Song, O God of All the Nations*
(Finlandia) arr. Bjorck

* **The Doxology** # 51

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts! Heav'n and earth are full of thee!

Heav'n and earth are praising thee, O God most high!

The Scripture Readings *John 5:1-9 and Acts 16:9-15* Mary Lee McIntosh, *Liturgist*

The Sermon *Of Times and Places* Reverend Grenfell

The Parting Hymn *This Is My Song* # 722

* **The Benediction**

* **The Choral Benediction** # 230, vs 4

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,

your touch can call us back to life again,

fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

Love is come again like wheat arising green.

* **The Postlude** *God Bless America* Irving Berlin

Today's Plate Offering

marked gifts

PLEDGE or

Orono to Africa

*Please help recovery efforts
 from Cyclone Idai.*

Mozambique

Medical Education Assistance

Former Orono school nurse Emily Wesson and her husband Dr. Peter Millard mentor and financially support medical students in Beria, **Mozambique**. One of these students is Bigiruhiriwe Rehnovat (Big). Big and his family are refugees and the area has just suffered through a tremendous cyclone disaster. Our church has helped Big through his medical education, and he is beginning his residency.

Malawi

Support for Women, Children, Sustainability

This area, too, suffered from Cyclone Idai in March. Marquita Hill, wife of John Hassler, a former CUF choir member, has traveled to **Malawi** – one of the poorest countries in the world—for many years using her own funds and church donations. Her efforts to help improve conditions in Malawi include: opening and supporting YWCA programs, adult literacy and health education classes, microloan programs, the building of “rocket stoves” and drinking water wells, planting trees, planned parenthood and much more. Our church continues to help in all these endeavors!

Along with your support of CUF's

Annual Church Picnic,

**please make checks payable to:
 The Church of Universal Fellowship.**

Memo your check or mark your envelope:

Pledge or Orono to Africa

(unmarked gifts will support Open Doors)

April Benevolences:

Partners for Peace \$243

Bangor Area Homeless Shelter \$190

Thank You!